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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF   :

MITSUYUKI HATANAKA, ET AL.   : EXAMINER: CHOWDHURY, N.

SERIAL NO: 09/889,016   :

FILED: OCTOBER 15, 2001   : GROUP ART UNIT: 2621

FOR: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR   :
INFORMATION PROCESSING, AND
MEDIUM FOR STORING INFORMATION

REPLACEMENT APPEAL BRIEF

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

This is a Replacement Appeal Brief in response to the Notification of Non-Compliant

Appeal Brief dated January 9, 2009, and of the Final Rejection dated July 10, 2008 (herein,

the Final Rejection), which finally rejected Claims 1-10, 12-15, 17-30 and 39-66. A Notice

of Appeal from this Final Rejection was timely filed on October 10 , 2008.

I.   REAL PARTIES IN INTEREST

The real party in interest in this appeal is the Assignee, Sony Corporation.

II.   RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Appellants' legal representative and Assignee are aware of no appeals which will

directly effect or be directly effected by or have any bearing on the Board's decision in this

appeal.

III.   STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-10, 12-15, 17-30 and 39-66 are pending in the application, and Claims 1-10,

12-15, 17-30 and 39-66 stand finally rejected by the Final Office Action. Claims 41-66 were

newly added; and Claims 11, 16 and 31-38 were canceled by the amendment filed April 15,

2008.

The rejection of Claims 1, 12, 22 and 39-41 is appealed herewith. A clean copy of

pending Claims 1-10, 12-15, 17-30 and 39-66 is attached in the claims appendix. Claims 1,

12, 22 and 41 recite parallel subject matter, and therefore stand or fall together. Similarly,

Claims 39 and 40 recite parallel subject matter and stand or fall together. The rejections of

Claims 1 and 39 will be discussed herein as exemplary of the rejections of record.

IV.   STATUS OF THE AMENDMENTS

No amendment was filed after the Final Rejection of January 30, 2008.

V.   SUMMARY OF THE CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

Claim 1 is directed to an information processing apparatus (e.g., personal computer

1)[1] having a function to transfer content data to a device (e.g., portable devices 6-1 to 6-3)[2]

connected thereto. The information processing apparatus also includes storage means (e.g.,

RAM 13 and/or HDD 21 and drive 22)[3] for storing the content data to a storage medium (e.g.,

RAM 13 and/or HDD 21). A setting means (e.g., keyboard 18, mouse 19, display 20 and

CPU 11 of the personal computer 1)[4] is also provided in the information processing apparatus

for setting whether the information processing apparatus automatically transfers content data

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[1] See specification at Fig. 2 and p. 11, l. 16 - p. 14, l. 3.
[2] Id., Fig. 1 and p. 8, l. 8 - p. 9, l. 10.
[3] Id., Fig. 2 and p. 11, ll. 19-21 and p. 12, ll. 14-17.
[4] Id., Fig. 16 and pp. 37-38.

stored in said storage medium to the device. The information processing device also includes

a transferring means (e.g., interface 17, and USB ports 23-1 to 23-3) for transferring the

content data stored in the storage medium to the connected device automatically without

regard to designation of content data based on a user input in case the setting means has set so

that the information processing apparatus transfers content data stored in said storage medium

to the device. [5]

Claim 12 recites an information processing method carried out in an information

processing apparatus (e.g., personal computer 1)[6] having a function to transfer content data to

a device (e.g., portable devices 6-1 to 6-3)[7] connected thereto. The method includes storing

the content data to a storage medium (e.g., RAM 13 and/or HDD 21)[8], and setting whether

the information processing device automatically transfers the content data stored in the

storage medium to the device.[9] The method further includes transferring the content data

stored in the storage medium to the connected device automatically without regard to

designation of content data based on a user input in case it has been set that the information

processing apparatus transfers content data stored in the storage medium to the device. [10]

Claim 22 is directed to a computer-readable medium (e.g., ROM 12)[11] having stored

therein an information processing program for use in an information processing apparatus

(e.g., personal computer 1)[12] having a function to transfer content data to a device (e.g.,

portable devices 6-1 to 6-3)[13] connected thereto. The program causes the information

processing apparatus to perform a method comprising storing the content data to a storage

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[5] Id., Fig. 2, p. 12, l. 19 - p. 13, l. 2 and pp. 37-38.
[6] Id., Fig. 2 and p. 11, l. 16 - p. 14, l. 3.
[7] Id., Fig. 1 and p. 8, l. 8 - p. 9, l. 10.
[8] Id., Fig. 2 and p. 11, ll. 19-21 and p. 12, ll. 14-17.
[9] Id., pp. 37-38.
[10] Id..
[11] Id., Fig. 2, p. 11, l. 21 - p. 12, l. 1 and pp. 80-81.
[12] Id., Fig. 2 and p. 11, l. 16 - p. 14, l. 3.
[13] Id., Fig. 1 and p. 8, l. 8 - p. 9, l. 10.

medium (e.g., RAM 13 and/or HDD 21)[14], and setting whether the information processing

device automatically transfers the content data stored in the storage medium to the device.[15]

The method further includes transferring the content data stored in the storage medium to the

connected device automatically without regard to designation of content data based on a user

input in case it has been set that the information processing apparatus transfers content data

stored in the storage medium to the device.[16]

Claim 41 is directed to an information processing apparatus (e.g., personal computer

1)[17] having a function to transfer content data to a device (e.g., portable devices 6-1 to 6-3)[18]

connected thereto. The information processing apparatus includes a recording unit (e.g.,

RAM 13 and/or HDD 21 and drive 22)[19] configured to store the content data to a storage

medium (e.g., RAM 13 and/or HDD 21); a processor (e.g., CPU 11) configured to set

whether the information processing apparatus automatically transfer content data stored in

said storage medium to the device[20]; and a communications interface (e.g., USB ports 23-1 to

23-3) configured to transfer the content data stored in the storage medium to the connected

device automatically without regard to designation of content data based on a user input when

the information processing apparatus is set to automatically transfer content data stored in

said storage medium to the device.[21]

Claim 39 is directed to an information processing method carried out in an

information processor (e.g., personal computer 1)[22] having a function to transfer contents to a

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[14] Id., Fig. 2 and p. 11, ll. 19-21 and p. 12, ll. 14-17.
[15] Id., pp. 37-38.
[16] Id., pp. 37-38.
[17] Id., Fig. 2 and p. 11, l. 16 - p. 14, l. 3.
[18] Id., Fig. 1 and p. 8, l. 8 - p. 9, l. 10.
[19] Id., Fig. 2 and p. 11, ll. 19-21 and p. 12, ll. 14-17.
[20] Id., pp. 37-38.
[21] Id.
[22] Id., Fig. 2 and p. 11, l. 16 - p. 14, l. 3.

device (e.g., portable devices 6-1 to 6-3)[23] connected thereto. The method includes

controlling recording of the plurality of contents to a recording means (e.g., RAM 13 and/or

HDD 21 and drive 22)[24] The method further includes controlling, each time at least one of

the contents is recorded at the recording controlling step in case the content has been

recorded at the recording controlling step, transferring of the recorded content to the

connected device while recording the other contents not yet recorded.[25]

Claim 40 is directed to a computer-readable storage medium (e.g., ROM 12)[26] having

stored therein a computer-readable program for controlling an information processor to

perform a method of checking out a content to a device connected thereto. The method of

Claim 40 is similar to that recited in Claim 41 and includes controlling of the recording of the

plurality of contents to a recording means (e.g., RAM 13 and/or HDD 21 and drive 22)[27],

and controlling, each time at least one of the contents to be recorded has been recorded to the

recording medium at the recording controlling step in case the content is recorded at the

recording controlling step, transferring of the recorded content to the connected device while

recording the other contents not yet recorded. [28]

VI.   GROUND OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

The ground of rejection to be reviewed on appeal is whether Claims 1, 12, 22 and 39-

41 are unpatantable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) by Rose at al. (U.S. Pat. 5,752,244, herein

Rose) in view of Savitzky et al. (U.S. Pat. 6,571,271, herein Savitzky).

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[23] Id., Fig. 1 and p. 8, l. 8 - p. 9, l. 10.
[24] Id., Fig. 2 and p. 11, ll. 19-21 and p. 12, ll. 14-17.
[25] Id., Fig. 51 and pp. 76-79.
[26] Id., Fig. 2, p. 11, l. 21 - p. 12, l. 1 and pp. 80-81.
[27] Id., Fig. 2 and p. 11, ll. 19-21 and p. 12, ll. 14-17.
[28] Id., Fig. 51 and pp. 76-79.

VII.   ARGUMENTS

A.   Independent Claims 1, 12, 22 and 41 patentably define over Rose and Savitzky

Independent Claim 1 recites an information processing apparatus having a function to

transfer content data to a device connected thereto, the information processing apparatus

comprising:

>storage means for storing the content data to a storage medium;
>setting means for *setting whether the information processing
>apparatus automatically transfers content data stored in said storage
>medium* to the device; and
>transferring means for transferring the content data stored in the
>storage medium to the connected device automatically *without regard to
>designation of content data based on a user input* in case the setting means
>has set so that the information processing apparatus transfers content data
>stored in said storage medium to the device.

As described in an exemplary embodiment at Fig. 16 and pp. 37-38 of the

specification, the information processing apparatus includes an interface that allows a user to

set the information processing apparatus to transfer content to the portable device without

regard to designation of the content based on a user input.

Turning to the applied reference, Rose describes a computerized multimedia asset

management system. In Rose's system, multimedia assets are checked-in to a computer

system along with specified characteristics and identification information for the assets.[29]

Checked-in multimedia assets are stored in a database on the storage device and previously

checked-in multimedia assets may be searched based on one or more asset characteristics and

asset identification information.[30] Multimedia assets are checked-out from the database by

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[29] Rose, Abstract.
[30] Id.

way of one of multiple transfer types and predetermined criteria are used to determine

whether to allow transfer of a particular asset.[31]

Rose, however, fails to teach or suggest that the computer system includes a "setting

means for *setting whether the information processing apparatus automatically transfers*

content data stored in said storage medium ... without regard to designation of content

data based on a user input" as recited in independent Claim 1.

In rejecting the claimed features directed to the "setting means", the Final Office

Action relies on Fig. 1 and col. 3, l. 50 - col. 4, l. 40 of Rose. This cited portion of Rose

describes a multimedia asset management program 22 used to manage and control access to

multimedia assets contained on a server 10. The multimedia asset management program 22

allows multimedia assets to be checked into the server 10; allows searching of multimedia

assets stored on the server 10; and allows selected multimedia assets to be checked out of the

server 10. The multimedia asset management program 22 interacts with the database

management program 14 on the server by way of API function calls to obtain access to the

database of multimedia assets on the storage device 12. Various input devices 26 allow an

operator to control and interact with the client computer 16. A system user can use the input

devices 26 to load new multimedia assets into the client 16 and check the multimedia assets

into the server 10 by way of the multimedia asset management program 22.

Rose, therefore, does describe that content can be transferred between a server 10 and

a client 16, but fails to teach or suggest that the server 10 includes a "setting means for

setting whether the information processing apparatus automatically transfers content data

stored in said storage medium ... without regard to designation of content data based on a

user input" as recited in independent Claim 1.

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[31] Id.

More particularly, Rose describes a check-out procedure at col. 14, l. 55 - col. 16, l.

51. Rose describes that once multimedia assets are checked into the multimedia asset

management system the user can check out multimedia assets. The user launches the check-

out procedure by selecting the "check-out" button 64 on the toolbar dialog box 40, shown in

Fig. 5. This causes the check-out dialog box 50 shown in Fig. 7 to be displayed. The check-

out object 50 obtains the user name from the session data object 120, and the list of projects

assigned to this user from the session data object 120. The user enters the name of the

multimedia asset to be checked out in the "name" field of the check-out dialog box 50. The

asset name should correspond to one of the names in the "name" field of the assets tables 86

stored on the storage device 12. Upon selection of the down-arrow adjacent the "project"

field, the check-out dialog box lists the projects from which the user can check out assets.

The list of projects corresponds to the list of projects assigned to the user, which is obtained

from the session data object 120. The user selects one of these assigned projects.

The user specifies the type of asset to be checked out by selecting one of the radio

buttons (audio, video, image, document, code or other) in the "type" panel of the check out

dialog box 50. The check out object 50 submits a query to the database access object 126,

depicted in Fig. 4, to locate the user-specified asset and to determine whether the check-out is

allowed.

Rose, therefore, describes that assets to be checked out of the server 10 by the client

16 are done so by providing a specific identifier of the asset requested by the client 16. This

configuration is in clear contrast to that recited in independent Claim 1. As noted above,

independent Claim 1 requires that the information processing apparatus include a "setting

means for *setting whether the information processing apparatus automatically transfers*

content data stored in said storage medium ... without regard to designation of content

data based on a user input" as recited in independent Claim 1. Instead, <u>Rose</u> does not describe, at any point, that the server 10 is able to be set to ***automatically transfer content*** to the client 10, but instead describes that specific parameters must be entered by a user in order to request for content to be "checked out" to the client 10 from the server. Therefore, <u>Rose</u> fails to teach or suggest an information processing apparatus including "setting means for ***setting whether the information processing apparatus automatically transfers content data stored in said storage medium ...***" as required by independent Claim 1.

Further, in rejecting the claimed features directed to the "transferring means for transferring the content data stored in the storage medium to the connected device automatically ***without regard to designation of content data based on a user input***", p. 3 of the Final Office Action concedes that <u>Rose</u> fails to disclose "automatically transfers content data without designation of content based on a user input." In an attempt to remedy this deficiency, the Office Action relies on col. 4, ll. 37-50 of <u>Savitsky</u> and asserts that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the cited references to arrive at Applicants claims.

<u>Savitzky</u> describes an image server 100 that captures images from a digital camera 120.[32] More particularly, <u>Savitzky</u> describes that when an image storage device 122 is removed from the camera and placed into a port of the image server 100, the image server automatically detects the image storage device and downloads the images stored thereon, adding various data elements, such as a camera ID, data of capture, and the like.

<u>Savitzky</u>, therefore, describes that his system automatically transfers images from an image storage device 122 once the storage device is connected to the image server 100. Thus, <u>Savitzky</u> fails to teach or suggest that his system includes a "setting means for ***setting***

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[32] <u>Savitzky</u>, Abstract and Fig. 1.

whether the information processing apparatus automatically transfers content data stored in said storage medium ... without regard to designation of content data based on a user input" as recited in independent Claim 1. More particularly, <u>Savitzky</u> fails to disclose that the image server 100 includes a "setting means", whatsoever, much less a setting means that allows the server to be set as to how content data is transferred from the image storage device 122 to the image server 100, as recited in independent Claim 1.

Therefore, <u>Rose</u> and <u>Savitzky</u>, even if combined, fail to teach or suggest an information processing apparatus having a function to transfer content data to a device connected thereto, the information processing apparatus including "setting means for *setting whether the information processing apparatus automatically transfers content data stored in said storage medium* to the device" and "transferring means for transferring the content data stored in the storage medium to the connected device automatically *without regard to designation of content data based on a user input*" as required by independent Claim 1.

As independent Claims 1, 12, 22 and 41 recite substantially similar subject matter as that argued above with respect to independent Claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that <u>Rose</u> and <u>Savitzky</u> also fails to teach or suggest all the features recited in independent Claims 12, 22 and 41.

B.   <u>Independent Claims 39 and 40 patentably define over Rose and Savitzky</u>

Independent Claim 39, for example, recites an information processing method carried out in an information processor having a function to transfer contents to a device connected thereto, the method comprising:

> controlling *recording of the plurality of contents to a recording means*; and
> controlling, each time at least one of the contents is recorded at the recording controlling step in case the content has been recorded at the

recording controlling step, *transferring of the recorded content to the connected device while recording the other contents not yet recorded.*

As disclosed in an exemplary embodiment at Fig. 51 and pp. 76-79 of the specification, such a configuration allows for the recorded contents to be transferred to the connected device while the contents are still being recorded.

In rejecting Claims 39, p. 4 of the Office Action asserts that Claim 39 is "rejected for the same reasons as discussed in the corresponding Claim 1 above." As noted above, however, Claim 39 recites features, which are not analogous to Claim 1. Therefore, the Final Office Action has not addressed each and every feature recited in independent Claim 39.

As noted above, Claim 39 recites controlling "*recording of the plurality of contents to a recording means...* and controlling, each time at least one of the contents is recorded at the recording controlling step in case the content has been recorded at the recording controlling step, *transferring of the recorded content to the connected device while recording the other contents not yet recorded.*"

Rose, on the other hand, as discussed above, describes that the process of checking data out of a server 10 based on a request received from a client 16. Rose, however, fails to teach or suggest that content is checked out to the client 16 from the server at the same time that the content is still being recorded to the server 10. Therefore, Rose fails to teach or suggest "*recording of the plurality of contents to a recording means...* and controlling, each time at least one of the contents is recorded at the recording controlling step in case the content has been recorded at the recording controlling step, *transferring of the recorded content to the connected device while recording the other contents not yet recorded*" as recited in independent Claim 39.

Further, Savitzky, as noted above, describes that the image storage device 122 is extracted from the digital camera 120 prior to being inserted into the image server 100.

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Therefore it appears unlikely that any data could be written to the storage device 122, while the storage device is being read by the server 100, since the image storage device is not connected to anything from which data could be recorded.

Therefore, <u>Rose</u> and <u>Savitzky</u>, neither alone, nor in combination, teach or suggest *"recording of the plurality of contents to a recording means...* and controlling, each time at least one of the contents is recorded at the recording controlling step in case the content has been recorded at the recording controlling step, *transferring of the recorded content to the connected device while recording the other contents not yet recorded"* as recited in independent Claim 39.

As independent Claim 40 recites substantially similar subject matter as that argued above with respect to independent Claim 39, Applicants respectfully submits that <u>Rose</u> and <u>Savitzky</u> also fails to teach or suggest all the features recited in independent Claims 40.

C. <u>As Claims 2-10, 13-15, 17-21, 23-30 and 42-66 ultimately depend from one of independent Claims 1, 12, 22 or 39-41, these claims also patentably define over the applied references.</u>

As discussed above, the combination of <u>Rose</u> and <u>Savitzky</u> fails to teach or suggest specific features recited in independent Claims 1, 12, 22 or 39-41. Likewise, <u>Takahashi</u> (U.S. Pat. 6,931,531) fails to remedy any of the above-mentioned deficiencies of <u>Rose</u> and <u>Savitzky</u>. Therefore, none of the cited references, alone or in combination, teach or suggest Applicant's Claims 2-10, 13-15, 17-21, 23-30 and 42-66, which include the limitations of one of Claims 1, 12, 22 or 39-41 by virtue of dependency.
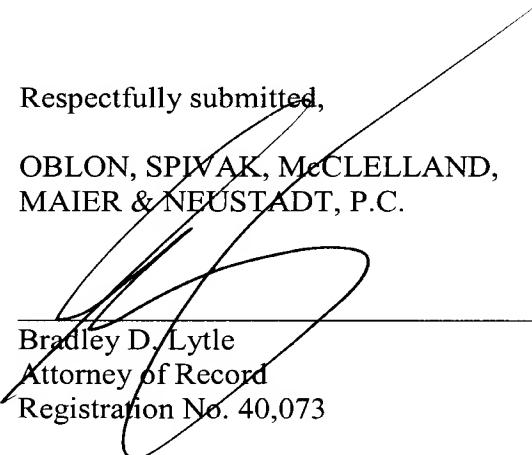
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CONCLUSION

It is believed to be clear that the Final Action of July 10, 2008 fails to properly

analyze the claimed subject matter and to properly determine the differences between this

claimed subject matter and the applied references. Accordingly, based on the discussion

above, it is believed to be clear that Claims 1-10, 12-15, 17-30 and 39-66 recite features that

are clearly not taught or rendered obvious by Rose and Savitzky. Under these conditions, it is

clear that the rejections offered by the Examiner must be reversed.

Respectfully submitted,

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VIII.   CLAIMS APPENDIX

1. An information processing apparatus having a function to transfer content data to a device connected thereto, the information processing apparatus comprising:

storage means for storing the content data to a storage medium;

setting means for setting whether the information processing apparatus automatically transfers content data stored in said storage medium to the device; and

transferring means for transferring the content data stored in the storage medium to the connected device automatically without regard to designation of content data based on a user input in case the setting means has set so that the information processing apparatus transfers content data stored in said storage medium to the device.

2. The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

reading means for reading the content data from a recording medium,

wherein the storage means stores the content data read from the recording medium.

3. The information processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the recording medium is an optical disc, and the reading means reads the content data from the optical disc.

4. The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the recording medium is a semiconductor memory, and the reading means read the content data from the semiconductor memory.

5. The information processing apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising:

encrypting means for encrypting, by a predetermined method, the content data read by the reading means,

wherein the storage means stores the encrypted content data to the storage medium.

6. The information processing apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising:

compression means for compressing the content data read by the reading means in a predetermined format file,

wherein the storage means stores the content data compressed by the compression means to the storage medium.

7. The information processing apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising:

encrypting means for encrypting the content data compressed by the compression means,

wherein the storage means stores the encrypted content data to the storage medium.

8. The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

communications means for receiving content data via a network,

wherein the storage means stores the received content data as the content data.

9. The information processing apparatus according to claim 8, further comprising:

encrypting means for encrypting the content data received by the communications means,

wherein the storage means stores the encrypted content data to the storage medium.

10. The information processing apparatus according to claim 8, further comprising:

compression means for compressing the content data received by the communications means in a predetermined format file,

wherein the storage means stores the content data compressed by the compression means to the storage medium.

11 (Canceled).

12. An information processing method carried out in an information processing apparatus having a function to transfer content data to a device connected thereto, the method comprising:

storing the content data to a storage medium;

setting whether the information processing device automatically transfers the content data stored in the storage medium to the device; and

transferring the content data stored in the storage medium to the connected device automatically without regard to designation of content data based on a user input in case it has been set that the information processing apparatus transfers content data stored in the storage medium to the device.

13. The method according to claim 12, further comprising:

reading the content data from a recording medium; and

storing the read content data to the storage medium.

14. The method according to claim 13, further comprising:

encrypting the content data read from the recording medium; and

storing the encrypted content data to the storage medium.

15. The method according to claim 12, further comprising:

changing a compression method by which the read content data is compressed to a

predetermined method; and

storing the content data compressed by the predetermined method to the storage

medium.

16 (Canceled).

17. The method according to claim 16, further comprising:

encrypting the content data compressed by the predetermined compression method;

and

storing the encrypted content data to the storage medium.

18. The method according to claim 12, further comprising:

receiving a content via a network; and

storing the received content data to the storage medium.

19. The method according to claim 18, further comprising:

encrypting the received content data; and

storing the encrypted content data to the storage medium.

20. The method according to claim 18, further comprising:

changing a compression method by which the received content data is compressed to

a predetermined method; and

storing the content data compressed by the predetermined method to the storage

medium.

21. The method according to claim 20, further comprising:

encrypting the compressed content data; and

storing the encrypted content data to the storage medium.

22. A computer-readable medium having stored therein an information processing

program for use in an information processing apparatus having a function to transfer content

data to a device connected thereto, the program comprising:

storing the content data to a storage medium;

setting whether the information processing device automatically transfers the content

data stored in the storage medium to the device; and

transferring the content data stored in the storage medium to the connected device

automatically without regard to designation of content data based on a user input in case it

has been set that the information processing apparatus transfer content data stored in the

storage medium to the device.

23. The computer-readable medium according to claim 22, further comprising:

reading the content data from a recording medium; and

storing the content read data to the storage medium.

24. The computer-readable medium according to claim 22, further comprising:

encrypting the content data read from the recording medium; and

storing the encrypted content data to the storage medium.

25. The computer-readable medium according to claim 22, further comprising:

changing a compression method by which the read content data is compressed to a

predetermined method; and

storing the content data compressed by the predetermined method to the storage

medium.

26. The computer-readable medium according to claim 25, further comprising:

encrypting the content data compressed by the predetermined compression method;

and

storing the encrypted content data to the storage medium.

27. The computer-readable medium according to claim 22, further comprising:

receiving a content via a network; and

storing the received content data to the storage medium.

28. The computer-readable medium according to claim 27, further comprising:

encrypting the received content data; and

storing the encrypted content data to the storage medium.

29. The computer-readable medium according to claim 27, further comprising:

changing a compression method by which the received content data is compressed to a predetermined method; and

storing the content data compressed by the predetermined compression method to the storage medium.

30. The computer-readable medium according to claim 29, further comprising:

encrypting the compressed content data; and

storing the encrypted content data to the storage medium.

31-38. (Canceled)

39. An information processing method carried out in an information processor having a function to transfer contents to a device connected thereto, the method comprising:

controlling recording of the plurality of contents to a recording means; and

controlling, each time at least one of the contents is recorded at the recording controlling step in case the content has been recorded at the recording controlling step, transferring of the recorded content to the connected device while recording the other contents not yet recorded.

40. A computer-readable storage medium having stored therein a computer-readable program for controlling an information processor to perform a method of checking out a content to a device connected thereto, the method comprising:

controlling of the recording of the plurality of contents to a recording means; and

controlling, each time at least one of the contents to be recorded has been recorded to

the recording medium at the recording controlling step in case the content is recorded at the

recording controlling step, transferring of the recorded content to the connected device while

recording the other contents not yet recorded.

41. An information processing apparatus having a function to transfer content data to

a device connected thereto, the information processing apparatus comprising:

a recording unit configured to store the content data to a storage medium;

a processor configured to set whether the information processing apparatus

automatically transfer content data stored in said storage medium to the device; and

a communications interface configured to transfer the content data stored in the

storage medium to the connected device automatically without regard to designation of

content data based on a user input when the information processing apparatus is set to

automatically transfer content data stored in said storage medium to the device.

42. The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a reading unit configured to read the content data from a recording medium,

wherein the recording unit stores the content data read from the recording medium.

43. The information processing apparatus according to claim 42, wherein the

recording medium is an optical disc, and the reading unit reads the content data from the

optical disc.

44. The apparatus according to claim 42, wherein the recording medium is a semiconductor memory, and the reading unit reads the content data from the semiconductor memory.

45. The information processing apparatus according to claim 42, wherein:

said processor configured to encrypt, by a predetermined method, the content data read by the reading unit, and

wherein the recording unit stores the encrypted content data to the storage medium.

46. The information processing apparatus according to claim 42, wherein:

said processor configured to compress the content data read by the reading unit in a predetermined format file, and

wherein the recording unit stores the compressed content data to the storage medium.

47. The information processing apparatus according to claim 46, wherein:

said processor configured to encrypt the compressed content data, and

wherein the recording unit stores the encrypted content data to the storage medium.

48. The information processing apparatus according to claim 41, further comprising:

other communications interface configured to receive content data via a network,

wherein the recording unit stores the received content data as the content data.

49. The information processing apparatus according to claim 48, wherein:

said processor configured to encrypt the content data received by the communications interface,

wherein the recording unit stores the encrypted content data to the storage medium.

50. The information processing apparatus according to claim 48, wherein:

said processor configured to compress the content data received by the communications interface in a predetermined format file,

wherein the recording unit stores the compressed content data to the storage medium.

51. The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

display means for displaying a bar showing progress of storing the content data by the storage means.

52. The method of claim 12, further comprising:

displaying a bar showing progress of storing the content data.

53. The computer-readable medium of claim 22, further comprising:

displaying a bar showing progress of storing the content data.

54. The apparatus according to claim 41, further comprising:

a display configured to display a bar showing progress of storing the content data by the recording unit.

55. The information processing apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

display means for displaying a bar in a color which shows progress of storing the content data and displaying another bar in another color which shows progress of transferring the content data stored in said storage medium by the transferring means, wherein said bar and the another bar are displayed so as to overlap each other.

56. The method of claim 12, further comprising:

displaying a bar in a color which shows progress of storing the content data and displaying another bar in another color which shows progress of transferring the content data stored in said storage medium, wherein the bar and the another bar are displayed so as to overlap each other.

57. The computer-readable medium of claim 22, further comprising:

displaying a bar in a color which shows progress of storing the content data and displaying another bar in another color which shows progress of transferring the content data stored in said storage medium, wherein the bar and the another bar are displayed so as to overlap each other.

58. The information processing apparatus of claim 41, further comprising:

a display configured to display a bar in a color which shows progress of storing the content data and displaying another bar in another color which shows progress of transferring the content data stored in said storage medium, wherein the bar and the another bar are displayed so as to overlap each other.

59. The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

display means for displaying a bar showing progress of storing the content data stored in said storage medium by the transferring means.

60. The method of claim 12, further comprising:

displaying a bar showing progress of storing the content data stored in said storage medium by the transferring.

61. The computer-readable medium of claim 22, further comprising:

displaying a bar showing progress of storing the content data stored in said storage medium by the transferring.

62. The apparatus according to claim 41, further comprising:

a display configured to display displaying a bar showing progress of storing the content data stored in said storage medium by the communications interface.

63. The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

compression means for compressing the content data stored in said storage medium in a predetermined format file so as to be able to be reproduced by the device,

wherein said transferring means transfers the compressed content data to the device.

64. The method of claim 12, further comprising:

compressing the content data stored in said storage medium in a predetermined format file so as to be able to be reproduced by the device; and

transferring the compressed content data to the device.

65. The computer-readable medium of claim 22, further comprising:

compressing the content data stored in said storage medium in a predetermined format

file so as to be able to be reproduced by the device; and

transferring the compressed content data to the device.

66. The apparatus according to claim 41, further comprising:

a processor configured to compress the content data stored in said storage medium in

a predetermined format file so as to be able to be reproduced by the device,

wherein said communications interface transfers the compressed content data to the

device.

IX. EVIDENCE APPENDIX

NONE

X. <u>RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX</u>

NONE